

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 INR-05

CIAE-00 L-01 SSO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-03 ACDA-10

INRE-00 NEAE-00 SP-02 IGA-01 /053 W

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O 271512Z JAN 76 ZFF RUEKJCS RUEHC

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6779

SECDEF WASHDC/ZFF//

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T AMMAN 0466

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MASS JO US SA

SUBJECT: HAWK FINANCING

REF: STATE 019614, AMMAN 0445

1. TO PRECLUDE ANY MISUNDERSTANDING AND FOR POSSIBLE USE BY JORDANIANS IN ACTIVATING SAUDIS, LETTER QUOTED IN PARA 8 BELOW WAS PROVIDED BY DATT TO CINC, LTG BIN SHAKER SUMMARIZING COMMENT OF STATE 019614 IN MANNER REASONABLY PALATABLE CONSIDERING THE BASIC THRUST.

2. IN FOLLOW ON CONVERSATION WITH CINC, DATT OFFERED TO DELETE OUR ASSUMPTIONS REGARDING TRAINING WHICH WERE BASED ON STATEMENT IN STATE 019614 THAT ALL ACTIONS WILL BE TERMINATED. DATT ALSO OFFERED TO DISCUSS SUBJECT ON VERBAL BASIS WITHOUT OFFICIAL DELIVERY OF LATTER CINC RESPONDED THAT LETTER MAY WELL BE USEFUL TO HIS MAJESTY IN DEALING WITH SAUDIS AND FACTS WERE FACTS WITH REGARD TO THE TRAINING PROBLEM.

3. IN DICUSSIONS WHICH FOLLOWED, CONSULTATION WERE SECRET

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QUICKLY HELD WITH PRIME MINISTER COS (MG IDRIS) AND FORMER ACOS/P& O (MAJALI) REACTION WAS THAT THE SITUATION WAS DEFINITELY AN ULTIMATUM WHICH WAS INDICATIVE OF SHIFTING DOD/STATE ATTITUDES REGARDING

JORDAN. US IMPATIENCE AT FUND TRANSFER AND PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO BE HELPFUL WERE UNDERSTOOD BUT A TWO WORKING DAY ULTIMATUM WAS INEXCUSABLE. HAD THEY HAD THE ULTIMATUM PRIOR TO HIS MAJESTY'S RECENT VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA (22JAN) IT MAY HAVE BEEN HELPFUL NOW IT WAS THE ULTIMATUM IN COMPLICATING AN ALREADY DIFFICULT PROBLEM.

4. LTG BEN SHAKER FELT THAT BETWEEN SAUDI BUREACRACY AND USG SHORTSIGHTENESS THEY MAY BOTH MANAGE TO QUEER THE ENTIRE DEAL, AND HE WAS MOST APPREHENSIVE OVER THE CONSEQUENCES IF THIS HAPPENS. COMMENT PRESUME HE MEANT SA-6 ALTERNATIVE,

5. WITH REGARD TO STUDENTS PRESENTLY INCONUS AND SCHEDULED TO DEPART IN FEBRUARY HE COULD NOT CONCEIVE THAT WE WOULD ACTUALLY HALT TRAINING HOWEVER IF SO HE HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO ASK FOR AN IMMEDIATE FMS CASH LOA (ESTIMATE \$750,000) TO COVER JORDAN DURING THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD. JAF WOULD FIND ENTIRE AMOUNT TO KEEP AT LEAST THE TRAINING OF COURSE AND PRECLUDE UNSETTLING RAMIFICATIONS WITHIN ARMED FORCES.

6. DATT INFORMED CINC VERBALLY OF FMSCR TRANSFER OFFER MADE IN PARA 3 STATE 019614, BUT AS WE BELIEVED, IT WAS A COMPLETE NON-STARTER. HE APPRECIATED THE PROPOSAL BEING OMITTED FROM THE LETTER AND REAFFIRMED THAT THEY WILL ONLY PROCEED WITH THE AIR DEFENSE PROJECT IF SAUDI PICKS UP THE ENTIRE TAB. FINANCIALLY JORDAN CANNOT ALLOW ITSELF TO BE DRAGGED INTO THIS VENTURE WITHOUT SAUDI COMMITMENT AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

7. AFTER SEVERAL TELEPHONIC CONVERSATIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER, CINC INFORMED DATT THAT HIS MAJESTY WILL DISCUSS LATEST DEVELOPMENT TELEPHONICALLY WITH SAUDIS THIS AFTERNOON.

SECRET

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8. COPY OF LETTER TO CINC TEXT FOLLOWS:

"DEAR GENERAL BEN SHAKER  
ALTHOUGH I AM FULLY AWARE OF THE DIFFICULTIES  
BEING ENCOUNTERED IN FINALIZING DOWNPAYMENTS ON I  
HAWK-VULCAN LOA'S (FMS CASE UPZ, URS, CTD, CTE, UPY  
UQB) THE PROBLEMS HAS BECOME MOST URGENT IN WASHINGTON  
BECAUSE OF SEROUS STATUTORY PROBLEMS EVOLVING AS A  
RESULT OF FUNDS ALREADY EXPENDED. AS YOU ARE AWARE  
THE MOST URGENT FINANCIAL DEMANDS IN SUPPORT OF YOUR  
AIR DEFENSE PROGRAM WERE MADE IN THE INTEREST OF  
MEETING AGREED DEPLOYMENT DATES IN CY 1976. IT NOW  
APPEARS THAT UNLESS DOWNPAYMENTS ON THE ABOVE

CASES ARE TRANSFERRED PRIOR TO 31 JANUARY YOUR GOVERNMENT  
WILL INCUR ESTIMATED PENALTY CHARGES OF \$2 MILLION  
AND COSTS OF EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES WILL ESCALATE  
AFTER THAT DATE. IN ADDITION WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED  
THAT ALL ACTIONS PERTAINING TO THESE CASES WILL TERMINATE AS OF THAT DATE, AND WE ASSUME THIS TO MEAN  
TERMINATION OF ALL CONUS TRAINING FOR PERSONNEL  
ALREADY IN COURSES.

I FULL REALIZE THE QUANDARY IN WHICH THIS PLACES  
YOU AND CANNOT AFFORD ANY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE OTHER  
THAN ARRANGING A SIGNIFICANT TRANSFER OF FUNDS THAT  
WILL TANGIBLY GIVE EVIDENCE OF INTENTION TO MEET THE  
LOA COMMITMENTS.

BE ASSURED THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS  
DONE EVERYTHING LEGALLY POSSIBLE WITHIN THE PAST  
SEVERAL MONTHS TO FULLY SUPPORT JORDAN'S I-HAWK VULCAN  
PROGRAMS AND ALL CONCERNED STRONGLY REGRET THAT WE CAN  
NO LONGER PROCEED WITHOUT THE REQUIRED TRANSFER OF  
FUNDS.

9. FOR DEFENSE: SUGGEST INFORM EUCOM WE WILL  
REPEAT PERTINENT CABLES FROM HERE.  
PICKERING

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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